

Announcing the

2010-2011

Missouri

Teacher

of the

Year

Program

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:

- July 20, 2010

INCLUDES:


- Rules for candidates
- Application cover page
- Clinic registration form

Sponsored by the
Missouri Department of
Elementary and Secondary Education

Major funding provided by



2010-2011 Missouri Teacher of the Year Program



The Missouri Teacher of the Year Program is conducted annually by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year Program. Designed to focus public attention on excellence in teaching, the Teacher of the Year competition is the oldest nationwide program honoring classroom teachers. The National Teacher of the Year Program is sponsored by ING and is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers. Major funding for the Missouri Teacher of the Year Program is provided by the Boeing Company.

Who is Eligible?

Any full-time teacher, pre-kindergarten through grade 12, in a public school district may be a candidate. The nominee should be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled teacher in any state-approved or accredited school, pre-kindergarten through grade 12, who is planning to continue in an active teaching status. (Supervisory and administrative responsibilities should be of secondary consideration.) Principals and other administrators are ineligible.

Candidates should have the respect and admiration of students, parents and colleagues. They should inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. They should also play active roles in their communities, providing service and leadership in civic, religious or humanitarian endeavors.

Candidates should be poised and articulate. They should have the energy to withstand a busy schedule as well as the ability to meet people easily. These qualities are important, not only for the personal interview conducted by the state selection committee but also because the Teacher of the Year is frequently interviewed by the media and is invited to speak before professional and civic groups.

Nominating Procedures

Local nominating procedures vary. Teachers may be nominated at the building level or on a districtwide basis. School districts are encouraged to establish formal procedures for nominating candidates. Each school district may nominate only one candidate for the state competition. The candidate must be endorsed by the superintendent of schools (by signature on the application cover page). No application materials will be returned.

Selecting the Winner

A committee appointed by DESE selects the Teacher of the Year according to criteria established at the national level. The state selection committee is composed of the current and previous Teacher of the Year, a representative from Missouri PTA, a school public-relations specialist, a representative from the corporate sponsor, a representative from each of the three teacher organizations, and a school administrator. The selection committee meets during August and September to review the candidates' materials and choose the finalists. Finalists are invited to Jefferson City for personal interviews with the committee. Following the interviews, the committee selects the winner.

How to Prepare the Application

Each candidate in the Missouri Teacher of the Year Program must submit an application packet to DESE. Candidates must adhere to the guidelines listed below. Signatures of the nominee, the nominee's principal and the nominee's superintendent (chief school administrator) must be provided on the application cover page.

- 1. Application cover page**
- 2. Educational history and professional-development activities** (*list most-recent activities first; two pages, minimum 10-point type*)
 - List colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
 - List teaching employment history. Indicate time period, grade level and subject area.
 - List professional association memberships including information about offices held and other relevant activities.
 - List activities related to staff development and the training of future teachers.
 - List awards and other recognitions of your teaching.
- 3. Professional biography** (*two pages, minimum 10-point type*)
 - What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions to and accomplishments in education.
- 4. Community involvement** (*one page, minimum 10-point type*)
 - Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic activities, etc.
- 5. Philosophy of teaching** (*two pages, minimum 10-point type*)
 - Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching including your own ideas on what makes you an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching.
 - How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?
- 6. Education issues and trends** (*two pages, minimum 10-point type*)
 - What do you consider to be the major public education issues of today? Address one; outline possible causes, effects and resolutions.
- 7. The teaching profession** (*two pages, minimum 10-point type*)
 - What can you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
 - What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?
- 8. National Teacher of the Year** (*one page, minimum 10-point type*)
 - If chosen as the National Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the profession. How would you communicate the importance of education in our society to your profession and to the general public? As National Teacher of the Year, what would be your message?
- 9. Letters of support** (*limit of three*)
 - Include three letters of support from any of the following: superintendent, principal, colleague, student or former student, parent, or civic leader.

Submitting Your Packet

- Submit one original and five high-quality photocopies of the completed packet. Photocopies should be on one side only. No application materials will be returned.
- Pictures and other items may be included in your packet as long as you stay within the maximum number of pages allowed.

Send your original application and copies to:

Teacher of the Year Program
Missouri Department of Elementary
and Secondary Education
Jefferson State Office Building – 8th floor
P.O. Box 480, 205 Jefferson St.
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480.

Awards and Activities

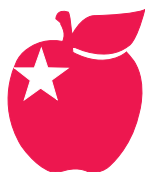
(Awards and activities are subject to change based on available funding and the schedule of elected officials.)

State level

- Recognition and an award provided by the Boeing Company
- A banquet hosted by the Missouri State Board of Education (funded by Boeing)
- Ceremonies with the governor and legislators
- Recognition and an award provided by the Missouri School Public Relations Association

National level

- Automatically become a candidate for National Teacher of the Year honors
- Meet Teachers of the Year from other states at the national conference
- Attend International Space Camp



Candidates Clinic

An informational workshop for candidates in the Missouri Teacher of the Year Program will be held Friday, May 14, 2010, in Jefferson City. The session will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Governor Office Building.



For more information, contact:

Missouri Teacher of the Year Program

David Welch, Coordinator
Jefferson State Office Building – 8th floor
P.O. Box 480, 205 Jefferson St.
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Phone: (573) 751-2453 • **Fax:** (573) 522-1134

E-mail: david.welch@dese.mo.gov

Web site: <http://dese.mo.gov/commissioner/awards/TOY>

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/ Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: July 20, 2010



Missouri Teacher of the Year 2010-2011

Please type the required information (use the tab key to navigate), print the form and sign where indicated.

Nominee name: _____ Telephone: () _____

E-mail address: _____ Fax: () _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Major subject area (if any): _____ Grade level: _____

Total years of teaching experience: _____ Years in present position: _____

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the attached materials may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Teacher of the Year Program.

Signature of nominee: _____

Principal name: _____ Telephone: () _____

E-mail address: _____ Fax: () _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Number of students – building: _____

Signature of principal: _____

Superintendent name: _____ Telephone: () _____

E-mail address: _____ Fax: () _____

District name: _____ County/District code: _____

District address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Number of students – district: _____

Signature of superintendent: _____



Teacher of the Year Clinic

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010 • 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
GOVERNOR OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 450
200 MADISON ST. • JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

★ Instructions and practical tips to help candidates prepare their applications
★ Questions and answers on all phases of the selection process
★ Designed for candidates and other district staff

**FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT
WITH A CHECK FOR \$25 PER PERSON BY APRIL 20.**

Missouri Teacher of the Year Program
Phone: (573) 751-2453 • Fax: (573) 522-1134

TEACHER OF THE YEAR CLINIC REGISTRATION FORM

(Please type the required information. Use the tab key to navigate.)

School district: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Telephone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Person(s) attending: _____

Registration fee: \$25 (per person)

Registration deadline: April 20, 2010

Make check payable to: Treasurer, State of Missouri

Return registration form with payment to:

David Welch, Teacher of the Year Program
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
P.O. Box 480; Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480